

Message Text

PAGE 01 BANGKO 14227 120818Z

14

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 120840Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6481

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

S E C R E T BANGKOK 14227

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, TH, BM

SUBJECT: LAHU UPRISING

FOLLOWING RECEIVED ACTION BANGKOK INFO COMUSMACTHAI FROM CHIANG
MAI SEP 11. REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO.

QUOTE:

S E C R E T CHIANG MAI 312

E.O. 11652: RECOMMEND EXEMPT

TAGS: PINS, TH, BM

SUBJECT: LAHU UPRISING

REF: CHIANG MAI 304

1. DURING CONVERSATION SEPTEMBER 10, CHIANG
MAI GOVERNOR, ASA MEKSAWAN EXPRESSED SERIOUS CONCERN
OVER RECENT UPSURGE OF FIGHTING BETWEEN LAHU AND
GUB NEAR NORTHERN BORDER HIS PROVINCE. HE SAID
FIGHTING WAS CONTINUING AND LAHU WERE MOVING INTO
THAILAND AS A RESULT. HE ALSO SAID PU CHANG LUANG
(MAN GOD) WAS STILL IN BAN HUAI PAK PHAI.

2. GOVERNOR DISCOURSED AT SOME LENGTH ON
DIFFICULTIES THIS TYPE OF ACTION CAUSES RTG IN ITS
SECRET

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RELATIONS WITH GUB. HE SAID WHILE RTG WISHES TO
IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH RANGOON, FOR HUMANITARIAN
REASONS IT CANNOT REPEAT NOT SHOVE LAHU REFUGEES BACK
INTO ARMS OF BURMESE OPPONENTS. CONSEQUENTLY, THAI

AUTHORITIES ATTEMPT TO DISARM ANY REBELS COMING ACROSS AND WILL GIVE THEM AND ANY WOMEN AND CHILDREN WHO ALSO COME REFUGE UNTIL SITUATION COOLS OFF. HE SAID HE WAS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED THAT BURMESE CONSUL GENERAL IN CHIANG MAI NOT REPEAT NOT GET WRONG IDEA ABOUT HIS ACTIONS. HE SAID THE CG HAS MANY EYES AND EARS IN THE PROVINCE.

3. COMMENT: HUMANITARIAN MOTIVES ARE CLEARLY A CONSIDERATION TO RTG AND GOVERNOR DOES FACE DILEMMA; IT IS PROBABLY EVEN MORE DIFFICULT THAN HE WAS WILLING TO DISCLOSE. AS REPORTED EARLIER, RTG OFFICIALS FROM OTHER AGENCIES HAVE TAKEN HAND IN AIDING LAHU. ALSO, SOME PRIVATE CITIZENS HERE ARE SYMPATHETIC TO LAHU CAUSE AND AT LEAST ONE CLAIMS TO HAVE ORGANIZED SUBSTANTIAL HELP FOR THEM. THESE THINGS ARE PROBABLY KNOWN TO GUB REP. HERE.
MONTGOMERY UNQUOTE
UNGER

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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